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ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF LOW MOLECULAR WEIGHT NITRILE RUBBER

(57) Abstract: Nitrile rubber polymers, optionally hydrogenated, having lower molecular weight and narrower molecular weight distribution than those known in the art, are prepared by metathesis of nitrile butadiene rubber, optionally followed by hydrogenation. The process comprises the steps of a) reacting a nitrile rubber in the presence of at least one compound which is a ruthenium or osmium based indenylidene complex and optionally b) hydrogenating the resulting lower molecular weight nitrile rubber using standard techniques known in the art. The optionally hydrogenated nitrile rubber, with lower molecular weight and narrower molecular weight distribution has very good heat resistance, excellent ozone and chemical resistance and excellent oil resistance. It is used in automotive, oil, electrical, mechanical engineering and shipbuilding industries.

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